

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR 14 February 1954

SUBJECT Railroad Construction Projects

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. Of 912 km of rails delivered by the USSR, 200 km each are to be allocated to the Berlin, Dresden, Halle, and Magdeburg regional railroad headquarters, while 112 km of rails will be made available to the Erfurt railroad district. Fish plates have been sent along with all the other small iron fittings required for the laying of rails will have to be produced by the railroad administration.¹
2. A switch shop estimated to cost six million Eastmarks is scheduled to be erected on the premises of the Brandenburg-West railroad repair shop in Kirchmöser. Work on the new installation is scheduled to be started in the first quarter of 1954. Construction work is estimated to last two years.²
3. On occasion of a conference held by technical personnel at the Ministry of Railroads on 7 November 1953, it was announced that rails with a width of 130 mm at their base would be delivered by the USSR in 1954.¹

- 25X1 4. [REDACTED] information on the status of railroad construction projects:

- a. The maintenance shop for locomotives under construction two km north of Guben railroad station on the Guben-Frankfurt/Oder railroad line, was 30 percent completed. The installation includes a large engine house, an office building, an interlocking plant, a water tower, a turntable, and the necessary trackage. About 350 workers were employed on the project.³
- b. The Guben-Falkenberg railroad line which was to be double-tracked throughout its length has been double-tracked only between Falkenberg and Cottbus.⁴
- c. Repair work on the bridge near Wuischke was completed according to schedule in late September.⁵
- d. Repair work on the bridge near Herrenhut will probably be completed in late November.⁵
- e. The concrete bridge near Fuerstenwalde on the Berlin-Frankfurt/Oder line is scheduled to be completed in 1953. About 100 workers were employed on the project.⁶

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- b. The bridge over the Warta River near Kuesstrin is being double-tracked. The laying of the second track is expected to be completed in April 1954. The speed limit for trains on the bridge is 15 km/h. One span of the bridge consists of military bridge equipment. The bridge sagged a little because one strut frame of the bridge superstructure broke.¹⁰
- c. Since about late September, the Frankfurt/Oder - Wosen railroad line has been operated single-track because the rails on the second track are being replaced. Construction work is scheduled to be completed by late November. Some of the Soviet transit traffic through Poland is being directed through Kuesstrin.²¹

25X1 15. [redacted] the piers of the railroad viaduct near Gern. had been reconstructed. Two of the four destroyed arches were being reconstructed.

25X1 16. [redacted] the piers of the railroad bridge over the Neisse River at Muskau had been reconstructed except for one, which was still planked.⁹

25X1 17. [redacted] 10 tracks had been laid for the new goods yard west of the Oder River in Frankfurt. The installations of the yard are scheduled to be completed in 1954. A temporary interlocking plant is already in operation.²²

25X1 1. [redacted] Comment. A total of 50,000 km of rails, the equivalent of 600 km of track of heavy type rails, is scheduled to be furnished by the USSR. According to unconfirmed information, about 7,000 tons of rails arrived by late October. As the profile of these rails deviates from German type rails they can only be used for new railroad lines or the construction of a second track on existing lines. [redacted] 25X1

25X1 2. [redacted] 25X1

3. [redacted] Comment. The project was included in the 1953 construction program.

25X1 4. [redacted] Comment. The completion of the Falkenberg-Cottbus railroad line section was reported previously. [redacted]

25X1 5. [redacted] Comment. Wutschke is on the Bautzen-Bad Schandau line; Herrenhut on the Loebau-Zittau line. [redacted]

25X1 6. [redacted] Comment. The replacement of the temporary bridge by a permanent structure was included in the 1954 railroad construction program.

25X1 7. [redacted] Comment. Plans on the construction of this line, which is connected with open-cast brown coal mining, were reported previously.

25X1 8. [redacted] Comment. This information, which is credible, is furnished for the first time. The new line would establish a cross connection between the Aue-Johanngesenstadt and the Aue-Adorf lines. The project was not included in the 1954 construction program.

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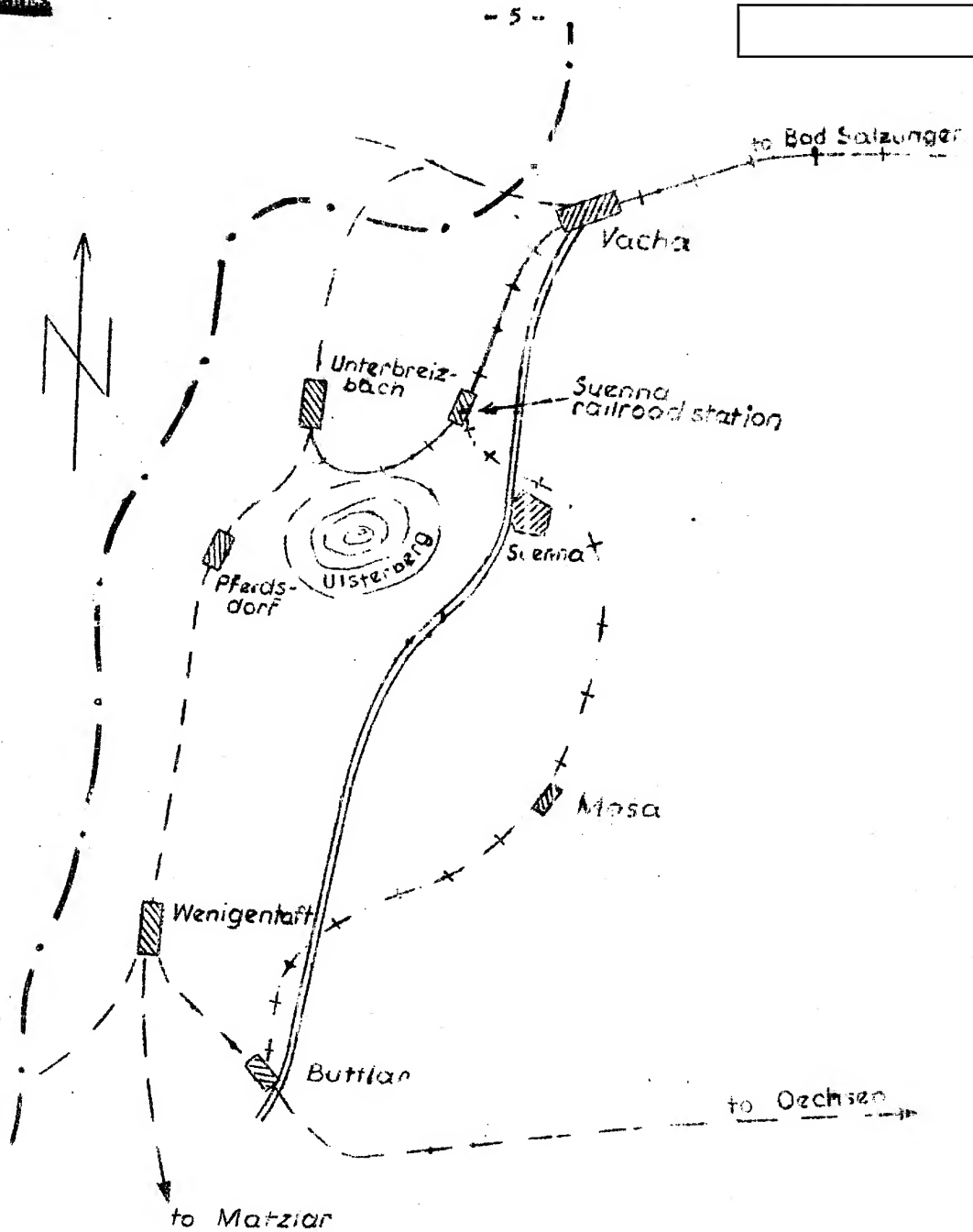
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- 5 -



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